

Child Development Milestones – 3 months

The majority of children will achieve these milestones by the time they turn 3 months. All children develop at different rates. Some children are slower than others (developmentally delayed) but catch up with time. Other children, however, may have an underlying problem that causes their delayed development, and they may not catch up. It is important for these children to get as much treatment (early intervention) as possible. So if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's development, see your child health nurse or doctor for help without delay. If in doubt, it is better to have your concerns checked than to 'wait and see'.

✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
Gross motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lift head when lying on tummy	<input type="checkbox"/> Any differences between right and left sides of body (in strength, movement or muscle tone)
<input type="checkbox"/> Lift head when pulled to sitting position	<input type="checkbox"/> Head falls back when pulled to sitting position
<input type="checkbox"/> Kick vigorously	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold back firm when held in sitting position	
Fine motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow objects from side to side with eyes	<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't follow objects with eyes
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold object briefly in hand	<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent fisting of hands (doesn't let go of objects)
<input type="checkbox"/> Look at own hand	
Talking and understanding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cry	<input type="checkbox"/> No turn-taking or variety in sounds
<input type="checkbox"/> Take turns in vocalising (making voice sounds)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make two or more speech sounds	
<input type="checkbox"/> Laugh	
<input type="checkbox"/> Respond to sound	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor or no response to sound
<input type="checkbox"/> Search for sound with eyes	
<input type="checkbox"/> Respond to mother's voice	
Social	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy being touched or picked up	<input type="checkbox"/> No preference of mother or other people
<input type="checkbox"/> Smile	<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't look directly at people's eyes
<input type="checkbox"/> Recognise mother	
Intellectual	
<input type="checkbox"/> Make active movements	<input type="checkbox"/> Inactive, detached (limited display of emotion)
<input type="checkbox"/> Put hands to mouth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Show an active, visual interest in the world and people	
<input type="checkbox"/> Have times of being alert	

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Child Development Milestones – 6 months

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✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
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Gross motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Lift head and chest off the ground when lying on their tummy	<input type="checkbox"/> Cannot lift head and shoulders when lying on their tummy
<input type="checkbox"/> Roll over side to side	<input type="checkbox"/> Cannot roll over
<input type="checkbox"/> Sit with support and a straight back	<input type="checkbox"/> Floppy back when held in sitting
<input type="checkbox"/> Bear weight on legs, stand with support	<input type="checkbox"/> Any differences between right and left sides of body (in strength, movement or muscle tone)

Fine motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Reach for objects with each arm and hand	<input type="checkbox"/> Obvious difference between use of right and left arms
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold objects with whole hand	
<input type="checkbox"/> Transfer object from hand to hand	<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent fisting of hands (cannot release objects)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold an object in each hand	

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/> Make four or more distinct sounds (vowels and consonants)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not much variety in sounds being made
<input type="checkbox"/> Laugh in response to something	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited social use of sound (not responsive, no turn-taking, no laughter)
<input type="checkbox"/> Search for sound by turning head	<input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in sound or able to turn to sound with head and eyes
<input type="checkbox"/> Change behaviour when listening to sound and human conversation	<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't change behaviour in response to sound

Social

<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy and respond to play	<input type="checkbox"/> Shows no preference to mother or other people
<input type="checkbox"/> Anticipate touch or being lifted	<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't look at people directly in the eye
<input type="checkbox"/> Turn head to people	<input type="checkbox"/> No responsive smiling or laughing
<input type="checkbox"/> Drink from a cup (with adult holding it)	<input type="checkbox"/> Negative or over-reaction to touch
<input type="checkbox"/> Resist toys being taken away	

Intellectual

<input type="checkbox"/> Resist objects taken out of hands	
<input type="checkbox"/> Examine what is in hand	<input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in what is in hand
<input type="checkbox"/> Show clear pleasure with new objects and experiences	<input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in people

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Child Development Milestones – 9 months

The majority of children will achieve these milestones by the time they turn 9 months. All children develop at different rates. Some children are slower than others (developmentally delayed) but catch up with time. Other children, however, may have an underlying problem that causes their delayed development, and they may not catch up. It is important for these children to get as much treatment (early intervention) as possible. So if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's development, see your child health nurse or doctor for help without delay. If in doubt, it is better to have your concerns checked than to 'wait and see'.

✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
Gross motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sit without support	<input type="checkbox"/> Can't sit alone
<input type="checkbox"/> Get into sitting position	
<input type="checkbox"/> Crawl, or make crawling attempts	<input type="checkbox"/> No crawling motion
<input type="checkbox"/> Begin to stand holding on	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to hold bodyweight or push up through legs in standing position
	<input type="checkbox"/> Any differences between right and left sides of body (in strength, movement or muscle tone)
Fine motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Point with index finger	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to use index finger in isolation (i.e. to poke or point)
<input type="checkbox"/> Hold objects using thumb and fingers	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bang objects together (one in each hand)	
Talking and understanding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Babble (vowels and consonants together)	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited variety of sound
<input type="checkbox"/> Put two syllables together into babble words	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited or no babble
<input type="checkbox"/> Babble phrases of 3-4 syllables	
<input type="checkbox"/> Perhaps say 'mama' or 'dada'	
<input type="checkbox"/> Imitate speech sounds	<input type="checkbox"/> No attempts to imitate sound
<input type="checkbox"/> Respond to own name	<input type="checkbox"/> Doesn't seem to know own name
<input type="checkbox"/> Show interest in listening to people talking to each other	
<input type="checkbox"/> Listen to soft sounds	
Social	
<input type="checkbox"/> Display fear or unease around strangers	<input type="checkbox"/> Does not behave differently between familiar people and strangers
<input type="checkbox"/> Feed self (e.g. a biscuit)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy playing games with people, like peek-a-boo	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in playing with people (or leave out)
<input type="checkbox"/> Try to get toys out of reach	
<input type="checkbox"/> Play with cup or spoon	
<input type="checkbox"/> React to self in mirror	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefers to play alone



Child Development Milestones – 9 months

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
<i>Intellectual</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Look at and feel objects in their hands		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Put objects down and pick them up		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enjoy exploring and moving around		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Search for objects after they have fallen		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Cannot tell the difference between new experiences and familiar ones
		<input type="checkbox"/>	No difference in responses to strangers and familiar people

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Child Development Milestones – 12 months

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✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
Gross motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stand holding on, walk holding on	<input type="checkbox"/> Cannot stand holding on
<input type="checkbox"/> Crawl well	<input type="checkbox"/> No crawling or bottom-shuffling
<input type="checkbox"/> Pull to standing position	<input type="checkbox"/> Any differences between right and left sides of body (in strength, movement or muscle tone)
Fine motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pick up objects using tip of thumb and index finger	<input type="checkbox"/> No clear use of the index finger to point or poke or with thumb to pick up objects
<input type="checkbox"/> Grasp pencil and start to scribble	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pick up smaller objects well	
Talking and understanding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Say 2 clear words	<input type="checkbox"/> No single words
<input type="checkbox"/> Shake head for 'no'	
<input type="checkbox"/> Babble short sentences of six or more sounds	<input type="checkbox"/> No babbled phrases that 'sound' like normal language
<input type="checkbox"/> Babble frequently when alone (i.e. talk to self)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Listen with more interest to familiar words	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in language, communication
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand 'no'	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand individual words, like 'drink'	<input type="checkbox"/> No recognition of individual words
Social	
<input type="checkbox"/> Play ball with a stranger	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness of strangers
<input type="checkbox"/> Point at wanted objects	
<input type="checkbox"/> Play more complex games, like pat-a-cake	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer to play alone
<input type="checkbox"/> Make the first move to show affection	<input type="checkbox"/> Show no pleasure when parents give affection
<input type="checkbox"/> Wave 'bye-bye'	<input type="checkbox"/> No awareness of what to do socially (i.e. waving, or noticing if someone walks in the room)
Intellectual	
<input type="checkbox"/> Actively explore – lifting lids, looking around	
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy actions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Find hidden objects, like a block under a cup	<input type="checkbox"/> Forgets objects or loses interest as soon as they are out of view

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Child Development Milestones – 18 months

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✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
Gross motor			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stand and walk well alone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to stand alone or walk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Bend or crouch to pick up an object	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsteady or uneven gait (walking pattern)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Climb ledge or up steps		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Push a pram / push cart		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk backwards a few steps		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Kick a ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cannot kick a ball
Fine motor			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stack 2-3 blocks into a tower	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cannot stack blocks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Scribble with a pencil on paper	<input type="checkbox"/>	No understanding of using a pencil
Talking and understanding			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Try to sing		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Say 4-8 clear words	<input type="checkbox"/>	No clear words
<input type="checkbox"/>	Babble long sentences with some clear words	<input type="checkbox"/>	No babbling
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Doesn't try to interact using language
<input type="checkbox"/>	Point to named pictures		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow single instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can't understand a single, short request, like 'Where is the ball?'
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Doesn't know name
Social			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Start to show sense of self by saying words like 'no', 'mine'		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play games with other people	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefers to play alone rather than socially
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manage to drink from a cup (half full)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of interest in learning to feed self
<input type="checkbox"/>	Enjoy sitting looking at books	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of interest in books
<input type="checkbox"/>	Points to body parts, clothing and objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of interest in body parts, clothing and objects
<input type="checkbox"/>	Help with dressing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of interest in dressing



Child Development Milestones – 18 months

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
<i>Intellectual</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Search for objects not only where they were last seen, but also in other places	<input type="checkbox"/>	Doesn't search for objects out of view
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play correctly with toys, such as pushing a car around, making an airplane fly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Toy play is random – just banging, dropping, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete simple puzzles, like placing one or two shapes in holes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No understanding of what to do with puzzles

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Child Development Milestones – 2 years

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✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
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Gross motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Run	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to run
<input type="checkbox"/> Throw a ball	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to throw (depending on experience)
<input type="checkbox"/> Walk up and down steps, holding on	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to use stairs
<input type="checkbox"/> Jump two feet together	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to jump
	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor quality gait (walking pattern) – e.g. falling over, clumsy

Fine motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Build a tower of 4-8 blocks	<input type="checkbox"/> Clumsy with stacking blocks
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy drawing of a vertical line	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to copy drawing a vertical line
<input type="checkbox"/> Scribble in circles with crayon/pencil	<input type="checkbox"/> Not interested in using a pencil; no scribbling
<input type="checkbox"/> Help with dressing and undressing	
<input type="checkbox"/> Line three blocks up to make a train	

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/> Say 20-50 clear words	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited vocabulary (less than 10 words)
<input type="checkbox"/> Say clear, two-word sentences	<input type="checkbox"/> No combination of words into sentences
<input type="checkbox"/> Name pictures and objects when asked	<input type="checkbox"/> Most of what is said is not easily understood
<input type="checkbox"/> Follow two-step commands	<input type="checkbox"/> Confused by short sentences
<input type="checkbox"/> Show a broad understanding (receptive vocabulary) of 50 or more objects and pictures	<input type="checkbox"/> Cannot understand more than 10-20 words
<input type="checkbox"/> Show interest in books and stories	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in stories and books

Social

<input type="checkbox"/> Play side-by-side with a same age friend	
<input type="checkbox"/> Identify many body parts	
<input type="checkbox"/> Help with dressing or undressing	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in personal skills like dressing or undressing
<input type="checkbox"/> Help around the house with very simple tasks	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in helping in social/household activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Use a spoon	<input type="checkbox"/> No interest in learning to feed self
<input type="checkbox"/> Show early imaginative play	<input type="checkbox"/> Play is not representative or imaginative – just pushing, dropping, hitting toys/objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> No sense of who they are



Child Development Milestones – 2 years

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
<i>Intellectual</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open screw toy		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Do puzzles with three items or shapes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No success or persistence to complete simple puzzles (1-3 pieces)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy familiar or recent experiences in play (e.g. teddy goes to the doctor)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play is physical and repetitive, with little pretending
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use one object to stand for another, like a block for a car	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited range of interests and activities in play

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Child Development Milestones – 3 years

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✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
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Gross motor

<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk heel-to-toe		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Stand on one leg	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unsteady balance – cannot balance on one foot
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jump off a step, both feet together		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Climb up stairs, one foot at a time		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Weakness, poor quality movement (e.g. clumsy, falls often)

Fine motor

<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy (draw) circle, cross, horizontal stroke	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to copy (draw) lines, crosses, circles
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thread six beads		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Build tower of eight or more blocks		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use scissors to cut along a line	<input type="checkbox"/>	No ability with scissors (although ability can depend on experience)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use fork and spoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to use cutlery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Undo button	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to undo button

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name objects and body parts		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Talk without just repeating what you say	<input type="checkbox"/>	Persistent copying in talking (such as repeating parts of movies, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Be understood almost all of the time	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mostly can't be understood
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use different types of words correctly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited grammar or vocabulary
<input type="checkbox"/>	Define things by use (house, key, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited content, interests or variation in the language
<input type="checkbox"/>	Give first name		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Follow three-step instructions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can't follow a 2-3 step instructions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify two colours		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Still need to talk to them in simplified, 'baby' language

Child Development Milestones – 3 years

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
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Social

<input type="checkbox"/>	Demonstrate clear, imaginative play involving people		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wash and dry hands		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Put on clothing	<input type="checkbox"/>	No interest in learning how to dress self
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play interactive games		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Give first name on request	<input type="checkbox"/>	No awareness/response to name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use fork and spoon together at the table	<input type="checkbox"/>	No interest in learning how to feed self
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name own sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to name own sex
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play with other children, with play beginning to interact around common interests. Turn-taking and sharing is beginning	<input type="checkbox"/>	No interest in developing interactive play skills with other children
<input type="checkbox"/>	Separate from parents without crying		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Can describe simple feelings of self – like happy, sad	<input type="checkbox"/>	No apparent awareness of own feelings
		<input type="checkbox"/>	No interest in helping in social/household activities
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Play is mechanical and repetitive with little change, imagination or human content

Intellectual

<input type="checkbox"/>	Play includes imaginary objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play shows little imagination
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draw a face with crude features	<input type="checkbox"/>	No understanding of using a pencil beyond random scribble
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognise a number		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeat back 2-3 numbers	<input type="checkbox"/>	No understanding of what numbers mean beyond copying counting
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand concepts of bigger and smaller		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognise money	<input type="checkbox"/>	No awareness of money (although this depends on experience)

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Child Development Milestones – 4 years

The majority of children will achieve these milestones by the time they turn 4 years. All children develop at different rates. Some children are slower than others (developmentally delayed) but catch up with time. Other children, however, may have an underlying problem that causes their delayed development, and they may not catch up. It is important for these children to get as much treatment (early intervention) as possible. So if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's development, see your child health nurse or doctor for help without delay. If in doubt, it is better to have your concerns checked than to 'wait and see'.

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
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Gross motor

<input type="checkbox"/>	Walk alone up and down stairs, one foot per step	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not able to walk up and down stairs with one foot per step
<input type="checkbox"/>	Run well on flat surface, turning sharp corners	<input type="checkbox"/>	Awkward, heavy running, with lots of arm movements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Climb playground ladders and other equipment easily	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not able to climb (may be fearful, anxious)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ride tricycle and pedals easily	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can't pedal a tricycle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Catch, bounce, throw and kick a ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	Can't catch, throw or kick a ball

Fine motor

<input type="checkbox"/>	Hold a pencil between thumb and 1-3 other fingers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not holding a pencil at all, or still holding in a fisted grasp with pencil in palm of hand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draw a basic human figure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not interested in drawing at all
<input type="checkbox"/>	Draw other simple pictures (e.g. a house)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not drawing simple pictures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brush teeth with supervision		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Wipe after using toilet	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not assisting or interested in trying to groom and bath
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dress except for hard to reach buttons, bows and shoelaces	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to dress

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/>	Use two or more personal pronouns (I, you, he, she etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Awkward sentences, missing grammatical elements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name colours and shapes		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hold conversations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Talks on and on rather than taking turns with talking
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tell story in past and future tense	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cannot tell a simple story of recent events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeat back a sentence of 10 sounds		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Be easily understood by strangers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strangers not able to understand
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand human feelings (e.g. cold, tired, hungry)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Give first and last name		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited or very fixed interests
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Frustration at not being able to express thoughts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand prepositions (e.g. in, out and beside)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Still need to simplify what you say for them to understand

Child Development Milestones – 4 years

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
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Social

<input type="checkbox"/>	Do up buttons, put on socks and shoes		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Name age in years		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Play cooperatively with other children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plays alone or alongside other children rather than cooperating
<input type="checkbox"/>	Begin to play games in groups with simple rules	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to take turns or share
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fully undress		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Create play reflecting complex social situations		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Persisting frustration if other children attempt to participate in play
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Cannot separate from parents without crying
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Play remains repetitive and physical, with little play representing what people do (e.g. shopping, police officer, driving a truck)

Intellectual

<input type="checkbox"/>	Create play with stories with different roles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Play doesn't ever represent what people do (e.g. shopping, police officer, driving a truck)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Able to compare object as higher or longer		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Count to five	<input type="checkbox"/>	No recognition of written numbers/letters
<input type="checkbox"/>	Count objects as well as rote counting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to point to and count objects
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeat back four numbers		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to draw a human face

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Child Development Milestones – 5 years

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✓ An average child can...	✓ Signs of possible problems include...
---------------------------	---

Gross motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Walk easily on narrow line	<input type="checkbox"/> Loses balance easily when moving
<input type="checkbox"/> Run lightly on toes	<input type="checkbox"/> Awkward and uncoordinated with running, stumbling, frequently tripping over
<input type="checkbox"/> Be active and skilful in climbing, sliding, swinging, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fears and/or avoids playground equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> Skip on alternate feet	
<input type="checkbox"/> Stand on one foot for 8-10 seconds, right and left	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to stand on one foot more than 2-3 seconds
<input type="checkbox"/> Hop on one foot 10 times or more, right and left	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to hop on one foot more than 4-5 times (either leg) and/or able to hop on one foot only
<input type="checkbox"/> Catch ball in hands, throw and kick easily	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to catch, throw or kick a ball
<input type="checkbox"/> Ride a bike with/without trainer wheels	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to pedal a tricycle or a bike with trainer wheels

Fine motor

<input type="checkbox"/> Thread a large needle	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to thread using large needle
<input type="checkbox"/> Copy (draw) basic shapes (triangle, circle, lines)	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to copy (draw) basic shapes (triangle, circle, lines)
<input type="checkbox"/> Begin learning to write letters (e.g. name)	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to copy letters that are recognisable
<input type="checkbox"/> Show more detailed drawings (e.g. windows in the house, curtains etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not drawing simple pictures
<input type="checkbox"/> Show improved scissors skills (cutting out simple shapes)	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty using a pencil and scissors
<input type="checkbox"/> Use knife and fork together	
<input type="checkbox"/> Usually have a clear hand preference before starting school	<input type="checkbox"/> No clear hand preference (where it affects performance in everyday activities)

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/> Hold a long, sensible conversation	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular trouble with finding individual words
<input type="checkbox"/> Make few grammatical errors	<input type="checkbox"/> Often makes grammatical mistakes
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to respond to questions (e.g. what, why)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Can't understand or explain meanings of common words
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand opposites	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand similarities between objects	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understand prepositions (e.g. in, out, beside) and personal pronouns (e.g. I, you, he, she)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mistakes with grammar, tense, personal pronouns or prepositions
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns from pre-school teachers about whether the child is able to understand
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to repeat longer sentences (eight words or more)



Child Development Milestones – 5 years

✓	An average child can...	✓	Signs of possible problems include...
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Social

<input type="checkbox"/>	Give home address (number, street)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Use knife and fork	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not independent with eating and dressing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fully dress and undress except laces and difficult buckles		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Solve social problems i.e. negotiate, share, avoid conflict	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable or not interested in participating in group games and activities
		<input type="checkbox"/>	No problem-solving skills if doesn't get own way

Intellectual

<input type="checkbox"/>	Identify coins and notes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unaware of money, number and time concepts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Count 10-20 objects		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand concepts of morning, afternoon		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Able to compare objects (e.g. faster, slower)		
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Mode of play is different than that of friends'
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Concerns about school readiness

If you have any concerns about your child's development, see your child health nurse or GP.

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Child Development Milestones – 6 to 8 years

The majority of children will achieve these milestones by the time they turn 6 to 8 years. All children develop at different rates. Some children are slower than others (developmentally delayed) but catch up with time. Other children, however, may have an underlying problem that causes their delayed development, and they may not catch up. It is important for these children to get as much treatment (early intervention) as possible. So if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's development, see your child health nurse or doctor for help without delay. If in doubt, it is better to have your concerns checked than to 'wait and see'.

✓ <i>An average child</i>	✓ <i>Signs of possible problems</i>
Gross motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Riding a two-wheeler bike (without trainer wheels by seven)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to jump, skip, hop, run in a coordinated way
<input type="checkbox"/> Becoming skilled with hopscotch and rope skipping	<input type="checkbox"/> Bumping into objects (such as furniture and people), tripping and falling over
<input type="checkbox"/> Getting skilled with a small-sized ball (and can catch it in one hand)	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncoordinated with ball skills
<input type="checkbox"/> Running up and down stairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Not able to ride a bike without trainer wheels after the age of eight years
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoying participation in team games	<input type="checkbox"/> Gets tired easily with every activity
<input type="checkbox"/> Gradually becoming aware of own body and movement, and comparing to friends	
Fine motor	
<input type="checkbox"/> Holding and using pencil easily	<input type="checkbox"/> Finds it difficult and tiring to grasp and use pencil
<input type="checkbox"/> Using fingers to write and draw rather than the whole arm	
<input type="checkbox"/> Learning to write within the lines	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty writing in lines
<input type="checkbox"/> Gradually making letters smaller, more well-spaced and well lined-up	<input type="checkbox"/> Letters still large, not becoming smaller
<input type="checkbox"/> Able to cut out irregular shapes, glue accurately and use sticky-tape	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty using scissors
<input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrate independent dressing skills including shoelaces (usually by the end of first grade)	<input type="checkbox"/> Unable to tie shoelaces and dress self independently by end of schooling year
<input type="checkbox"/> Able to brush and comb hair	
<input type="checkbox"/> Independent in all other aspects of self-care by the age of seven years	<input type="checkbox"/> Relies greatly on caregiver for bathing, grooming and feeding
<input type="checkbox"/> Aware of left and right	<input type="checkbox"/> Confusion between left and right (beyond first grade)
Talking and understanding	
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding similarities, opposites	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns from teachers about expressive abilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Communicating effectively in classroom and playground social settings	<input type="checkbox"/> Frustration in the classroom or playground due to not being able to express self properly
	<input type="checkbox"/> Trouble finding the right word
	<input type="checkbox"/> Grammatically incorrect sentences
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of awareness of what the listener already knows
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding within the classroom	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns from teacher about understanding
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding conversation amongst other children	<input type="checkbox"/> Child reports confusion in conversation with friends or in the classroom
<input type="checkbox"/> Understanding more complex grammar	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulties with learning to read



Child Development Milestones – 6 to 8 years

✓	An average child	✓	Signs of possible problems
Social			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Participating in well established, rule-based group games	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefers playing alone.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resolving conflicts without seeking adult intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>	No problem-solving skills if frustrated, or doesn't get their own way
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understanding the individual strengths and interests of other children	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lack of interest in other children or play
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Persisting self-centred focus (problems are always somebody else's fault)
Intellectual			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Able to tell right and left, days of week	<input type="checkbox"/>	Struggle with early curriculum expectations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Able to repeat three digits backwards	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teacher concerns (e.g. the suggestion of repeating first grade)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Able to count backwards from 20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child is frustrated about learning or the classroom
<input type="checkbox"/>	Understand time and how to tell the time		

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Child Development Milestones – 9 to 12 years

The majority of children will achieve these milestones by the time they turn 9 to 12 years. All children develop at different rates. Some children are slower than others (developmentally delayed) but catch up with time. Other children, however, may have an underlying problem that causes their delayed development, and they may not catch up. It is important for these children to get as much treatment (early intervention) as possible. So if you are concerned about any aspect of your child's development, see your child health nurse or doctor for help without delay. If in doubt, it is better to have your concerns checked than to 'wait and see'.

✓ <i>An average child</i>	✓ <i>Signs of possible problems</i>
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Gross motor

Children are becoming increasingly skilled with sports. They usually:	Problems may include negative reactions to physical activities, including:
<input type="checkbox"/> Enjoy team games (soccer, football, cricket, tennis, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoidance of sports in general
<input type="checkbox"/> Are able to swim	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoidance of team sports
<input type="checkbox"/> Show increased body awareness and self-perception	<input type="checkbox"/> Feelings of being 'bad' or 'hopeless' at physical activities
<input type="checkbox"/> Show increased awareness of own physical skills and how they appear to others	<input type="checkbox"/> Frustration and poor self-confidence
	<input type="checkbox"/> Low levels of self-perception regarding physical ability and appearance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased levels of endurance and fitness

Fine motor

This is the time for perfecting and refining skills. With most children:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult-type tools can be used, such as saws and hammers. Children can construct simple structures with wood and sew basic garments.	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty with construction and fine manipulative work
<input type="checkbox"/> Handwriting becomes more fluid, automatic and less of an effort	<input type="checkbox"/> Handwriting isn't fluid and automatic
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing speed increases	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty keeping up with written demands in class
<input type="checkbox"/> Writing can occur well without ruled lines	<input type="checkbox"/> Relies heavily on structures/lines for setting-out written work
	<input type="checkbox"/> Easily gets tired when completing a fine motor or writing task

Talking and understanding

<input type="checkbox"/> Children at this age use and understand very complex language.	<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns by teachers, parents, relatives or the child themselves should be referred to a specialist.
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Social

<input type="checkbox"/> Able to resolve social problems, like fights with friends and siblings	<input type="checkbox"/> Little to no capacity to see things from another's point of view
<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to understand other people's points of view	<input type="checkbox"/> Poorly developed idea of right and wrong (still self-centred and toddler-like)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sense of what is important is influenced by school and friends	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor ability to see how they can help in a problem situation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of compromise and flexibility

Intellectual

<input type="checkbox"/> The intellectual standard of children of this age is defined by the school curriculum.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Concerns by teachers, parents, relatives or the child themselves should be referred to a specialist.	

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